

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An automated design system for performing automated design of a product, comprising:

design rule storage means for storing a design rule,

automated design means for performing automated design using design requirement particulars with respect to a design of the product required by a customer or a designer, designer discretion particulars by discretion of the designer with respect to the design of the product, and the design rule necessary with respect to the design of the product,

determination rule input means for inputting a determination rule including a rule, which is to be satisfied by design of the product in the case of manufacturing the product, and comprises at least one parameter which is in addition to the design requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule,

determination rule storage means for storing the determination rule,

design result determination means for determining whether a design result obtained by the automated design means satisfies the determination rule stored in the determination rule storage means; and

determination result storage means for storing a determination result obtained by the design result determination means;

wherein the design rule stored in the design rule storage means is updated by reflecting the determination result.

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended): An automated design method ~~characterized by~~
having comprising:

previously storing a design rule necessary for design of a product targeted for automated design,

previously storing a determination rule including a rule which is to be satisfied by design of the product in the case of manufacturing the product, and comprises at least one parameter which is in addition to the design rule,

inputting design requirement particulars with respect to the product required by a customer or a designer,

inputting designer discretion particulars by discretion of the designer with respect to design of the product,

reading out the design rule and performing automated design using said design rule, the design requirement particulars and the designer discretion particulars, and

reading out the determination rule and automatically determining whether a design result obtained by the performing automated design satisfies said determination rule,

wherein the method further comprises:

storing a determination result obtained by the determining whether the design result obtained by the performing automated design satisfies said determination rule; and

reading out the determination result stored in the storing the determination result and updating the design rule by reflecting said determination result.

4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): An recording medium which includes an automated design program for making a computer execute processing including:

design rule storage processing for previously storing a design rule necessary for design of a product targeted for automated design,

determination rule storage processing for previously storing a determination rule including a rule, which is to be satisfied by design of the product in the case of manufacturing the product, and comprises at least one parameter which is in addition to the design rule,

design requirement particular input processing for inputting design requirement particulars with respect to the product required by a customer or a designer,

designer discretion particular input processing for inputting designer discretion particulars by discretion of the designer with respect to design of the product,

automated design processing for reading out the design rule stored in the design rule storage processing and performing automated design using said design rule, the design requirement particulars and the designer discretion particulars, and

design result determination processing for reading out the determination rule stored in the determination rule storage processing and automatically determining whether a design result obtained by the automated design processing satisfies said determination rule;

wherein the processing further comprises:

determination result storage processing for storing a determination result obtained by the design result determination processing, and

design rule updating processing for reading out the determination result stored in the determination result storage processing and updating the design rule stored in the design rule storage processing by reflecting said determination result.

6. (canceled).

7. (previously presented): The automated design system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determination rule is based on at least one of technical condition or operational state and schedule rules of a producer, a factory, a line and equipment, component inventory cooperation rules, purchase component selection rules, environmental control-capable rules, and illegal export prevention rules.

8. (previously presented): The automated design method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the determination rule is based on at least one of technical condition or operational state and schedule rules of a producer, a factory, a line and equipment, component inventory cooperation rules, purchase component selection rules, environmental control-capable rules, and illegal export prevention rules.

9. (previously presented): The recording medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the determination rule is based on at least one of technical condition or operational state and schedule rules of a producer, a factory, a line and equipment, component inventory cooperation rules, purchase component selection rules, environmental control-capable rules, and illegal export prevention rules.

10. (previously presented): The automated design system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one parameter is not addressed by the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule.

11. (previously presented): The automated design system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule address a plurality of other parameters, each of which is not addressed by the at least one parameter of the determination rule.

12. (previously presented): The automated design method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the at least one parameter is not addressed by the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule.

13. (previously presented): The automated design method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule address a plurality of other parameters, each of which is not addressed by the at least one parameter of the determination rule.

14. (previously presented): The recording medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the at least one parameter is not addressed by the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule.

15. (previously presented): The recording medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the requirement particulars, the designer discretion particulars and the design rule address a plurality of other parameters, each of which is not addressed by the at least one parameter of the determination rule.

16. (previously presented): An automated design system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising retrieval processing means for retrieving the determination results stored in the determination result storage means.

17. (previously presented): An automated design method characterized as claimed in claim 3, further comprising retrieving the determination results stored in the determination result storage means.

18. (previously presented): An recording medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the processing further comprises retrieval processing for retrieving the determination results stored in the determination result storage means

19. (previously presented): An automated design system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determination rule includes a patent infringement prevention rule.

20. (previously presented): An automated design method characterized as claimed in claim 3, wherein the determination rule includes a patent infringement prevention rule.

21. (previously presented): An recording medium as claimed in claim 5, wherein the determination rule includes a patent infringement prevention rule.